

**AARHUS
CENTRE**



**ОРХУССКИЙ
ЦЕНТР**

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Progress report for 2018

1) Recap of the project objectives:

In accordance with the Memorandum on cooperation between the State Agency for Environmental Protection and Forestry (SAEPF) under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic and the OSCE Centre in Bishkek of December 23, 2014 the following objectives set in front Aarhus Centre in Bishkek:

- interaction between environmental non-profit organizations, government agencies, local authorities, international organizations and other stakeholders;
- creation of informational-analytical and training materials, based on official information and research results for submission of an objective information to the public and systematic capacity building of all stakeholders;
- promotion of cooperation between environmental organizations and their potential partners among international and non-profit organizations.

2) Summary of activities

The OSCE Programmed Office in Bishkek financed our activities in 2018 from April 16th to December 16th.

Activity Aarhus Centre in Bishkek

Activity 1.2 Round table discussions on environmental information sharing are organized and Aarhus Centres newsletter is produced and disseminated

Sub-activity 1.2.1 Round table in Bishkek

On June 30, 2018, in the conference room of the Janat Hotel, the Aarhus Center in Bishkek together with the NGO “Global water partnership” with the support of the State Agency for Environmental Protection and Forestry under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic and the OSCE Programme Office in Bishkek held a round table on “Water and water security in the Kyrgyz Republic in the context of sustainable development goals”. The main goal of this

event was to discuss with stakeholders water security in Kyrgyzstan and to consider the main problems of water conservation in the future.

The main speaker of the round table was the regional coordinator of the NGO “Global water partnership” A. Jayloobayev, who presented 2 presentations on the “Concept and elements of water security in Kyrgyzstan” and “Using indicators of water security in Kyrgyzstan to make management decisions.” Speaker presented materials on the state of water supplies to date, what is the consumption of drinking water by region, the problems of preserving and consuming water reserves for production needs, and records of the state of water and its reserves.



Then, the coordinator of the “Global water partnership” K.Musabaeva presented 2 presentations on the “Gender issues of access to safe drinking water” and “Water for Sustainable Development development for 2018-2028 years”. She presented documentary information collected by experts on gender participation in the use of drinking water today both in the regions and in Kyrgyzstan as a whole, the participation of women in decision-making on the use of water in domestic and industrial needs, the problems of non-observance of sanitary norms in drinking water, as well as international participation of countries in the conservation of water resources of the planet and the attitude of decision-makers, respect for their use in national interests.



At the end of all presentations, the round table participants held a discussion that was enthusiastic and stormy. All speakers noted the urgency of discussing the problem and the need for early measures to prevent the problem of shortage of drinking water in the future.

Sub-activity 1.2.2 Round table in regions

a) On May 11, 2018, the Aarhus Center in Bishkek conducted a round table in Talas region on the topic “The solution of environmental issues with participation of local authorities and the civil society community is the basis for implementing the principles of the Aarhus Convention.” The heads of the ayil okmotu of the nearby districts of Talas, the heads of the TOS of the 3 quarters of the city of Talas, the representatives of the Talas department of the SAEPF and GIETB, the media and teachers of the educational institutions attended the round table. The main objective of this event was to consider and discuss problems in the field of environmental protection, respect for the ecology of the region and outline practical measures to involve the public in preserving the environment in its nature form.

The representative of the administration M.Bazarbaev made a brief about the carried out work of the Talas TUOSS for 2017-2018; he also informed about the activities in the field of environmental protection that were implemented during the year.



T.Momunbekova, the head of the Association “Alliance of NGOs of the Talas region” reported how public organizations conduct their environmental activities. She made a brief on the practical activities carried out in the region, and in particular, she focused on a project in which photo-traps were installed in 2 reserves, which were subsequently transferred to them for further use. The Head of the Center A.Nurbekov informed about the work of the Aarhus Center in Bishkek and provided a presentation about all the activities of the Center for 2015-2018.

At the end of the presentations, various comments and suggestions were raised about the problems of the environment: the need to combine efforts to educate the public about respect of nature, the instilling the love of nature to the youth of the region, the provision of material assistance in the form of equipment for carrying out environmental activities. All issues and proposals were accepted and subsequently transferred to the relevant authorities in order to provide assistance and take the necessary measures to solve environmental problems.



In the afternoon, the practical part was conducted together with the pupils of one of the secondary schools in the city of Talas, during which they collected the household garbage in one of the urban forest areas. After the action, T-shirts and baseball caps were donated by the Aarhus Center in Bishkek to the most distinguished pupils during the garbage collection.

b) On May 26, 2018, the Aarhus Center in Bishkek, in cooperation with the Naryn Territorial Department of Environmental Protection, SAEPF conducted an environmental action in Naryn, where students and teachers from Naryn State University and college students from the same university took part. The action was held in territory of the city park and with a number of roadside sites. In the course of action, up to 70 people participated, during which garbage was collected: about half a ton on the territory of up to 5 hectares. This action was conducted within the framework of the coming events in accordance with the state program “Tazo Jasho” and is dedicated to the upcoming 150th anniversary of the city of Naryn.



At the end of the action, the Aarhus Center conducted an introductory seminar for students of the University and students of the college on the basics of applying the principles of the Aarhus Convention in Kyrgyzstan, introduced the activities of the Center and informed about joint plans to be implemented in the near future in the Naryn region.



c) On June 22 the round table was conducted in the conference hall of the hotel “Janat” on the topic “The environment of the Chui region and its importance for the welfare of the population.” Employees of the Chui-Bishkek Territorial Directorate of the Environmental Protection Agency SAEPP, Chui Forestry and Parks, Chui Department of SIETS, various NGOs and local self-government took part in the work. The main task was to discuss with the various employees in the field of environmental protection the issues of the ecological situation in the region and the problems that need to be paid special attention.

The head of the Chui-Bishkek territorial environmental administration, A. Kidyrgichev made an introductory speech on the report on the state of the environment in the region. He informed the audience about the activities of his department over the past year, about the problems in the field of ecology in the region and on what should be paid attention and strengthen all the work to preserve the environment in its pure form.



Further, the representatives of the Frunzensky, Issyk-Ata and Zhayyl forestry raised the problems of preserving forest lands from poaching and the irresponsible attitude of outdoor enthusiasts. After their visits, the employees of the forestry have to conduct “Saturday’s” to clean the garbage left by tourists. Moreover, the representative of the GPC “Chon-Kemin” raised the problem of illegal cutting of trees by residents of nearby villages.

The representatives of the public expressed their comments on the poor work of environmental services with the population, they pointed that explanatory work with the villagers in respect of nature is not conducting in proper way. They note that there are no information boards on environmental problems in the region, television does not pay attention to environmental programs, booklets and leaflets on environmental issues are not distributed.

For all comments were received the answers by representatives of environmental services and the request to provide assistance in resolving these issues was raised by international organizations, including the Aarhus Center in Bishkek.

Sub-activity 1.2.3 Aarhus Centers newsletter is produced and disseminated

In late September, in preparation of an international meeting of the Aarhus Centers of South-Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia, Aarhus Centre in Bishkek developed a bulletin of Aarhus Centres of Kyrgyzstan. Bulletin prepared with the help of the OSCE Programme Office in Bishkek, outlining the materials of the Centers for 2017 -2018 years. This collection was presented at the international meeting and distributed to all participants.



Activity 1.3 Information boards are produced and installed in four regions of Kyrgyzstan

In accordance with the work plan for 2018, at the request of the Aarhus Centers, the OSCE Programme Office in Bishkek produced four information boards for installation in the regions of the Kyrgyz Republic. Thus, Aarhus Centers would be able to inform the public of the regions about work of the Centre and its partners in the implementation of planned activities, news in field of ecology, adopted new regulatory acts in field of environmental protection in Kyrgyz Republic and other information materials. These boards shipped to Issyk-Kul, Talas, Naryn and Chui region and installed near the buildings of the territorial departments of SAEPF. All information will be updating by our partners in the regions from the regional departments of the SAEPF, and in the Issyk-Kul and Chui regions - by the staff of the Aarhus Centers.



Activity 1.4 Organization of trainings and awareness discussions public on environmental issues

Sub-activity 1.4.1 A training course on environmental journalism is organized

Aarhus Center in Bishkek together with the Association of Land Users and Forest Users of Kyrgyzstan, with financial support from the OSCE Program Office in Bishkek, on October 17, 2018 conducted a field visit and a round table on the topic “Reliability of environmental issues coverage is a pledge of sustainable public relations”. Participants of this event were young journalists and future ecologists from the Kyrgyz National University.

The event began with a visiting visit to the demonstration field of the Association, which is located in the village of Arashan, Alamedinsky District, Chui region. Representatives of the Association showed fields where young trees of new breeds for Kyrgyzstan were planted – sexes. These species has great importance in the forest industry, as they grow faster than all types of wood and ecologically produce more oxygen due to large leaves. Also, due to the high root system, they can be used as planting stands. Then the participants took part in landscaping the wasteland on a demonstration field, planting young trees – spruce trees.



After that, all participants moved to the office of the Association, where the round table was held. At the event, participants were familiarized with the activities of the Aarhus Center in Bishkek, the Association of Land Users and Forest Users and newspaper *Asyl zher*.



After all the presentations, an interactive game on the environmental theme of environmental conservation was held. All participants were divided into 4 groups and each had the opportunity to present their project on a given topic and according to the results of the game the winners were awarded with gifts.

Sub-activity 1.4.2 Problems of awareness of rural sustainability

On December 7, 2018 in the conference hall of the Plaza Hotel, Bishkek, a round table was held on the topic “Raising awareness of the sustainability of rural regions and the principles of green economy in the context of climate change in the Kyrgyz Republic”, organized by the Association of Forest Users and Land Users of Kyrgyzstan and Aarhus Center in Bishkek with the support of the OSCE Programme office in Bishkek. The deputies of the Jogorku Kenesh of the Kyrgyz Republic, ministers and heads of environmental state bodies, employees of the Government Office of the Kyrgyz Republic were invited to the round table. Unfortunately, only representatives of ministries and departments, forest experts, representatives of international and public organizations took part in the round table.



The main topic of this event was to discuss the state of affairs in informing the public and government agencies on the development of the forest industry, applying innovative technologies to improve the sustainability of land management, introducing advanced methods in agriculture and public participation in the management of pasture resources in Kyrgyzstan. All presentations were aimed at the need for decision makers to participate in the process of improving the attitude of state structures to the forest industry, introducing changes to the forest legislation of the Kyrgyz Republic. All this is possible under the condition of public awareness on the ongoing processes and the presentation of reliable information about the changes. Recommendations and wishes of environmental specialists were made. At the end of the round table protocol was made, which will later be sent to the Jogorku Kenesh and the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic.

Activity 1.5 A plan of measures and mechanisms for legal acts is developed

a) On Saturday, October 27, 2018, in the conference hall of the Plaza Hotel in Bishkek, a training was held on the topic “Review of the regulatory legal acts of the Kyrgyz Republic in the field of water resources use” organized by the Aarhus Center of Bishkek and the Water Partnership of Kyrgyzstan “. The training was attended by teachers of the National Agrarian University and employees of the Scientific and Production Association “Water Partnership of Kyrgyzstan”. The trainers were consultants of the Aarhus Center Boltobaev V. – lawyer and Jailoobaev A. – regional coordinator of the Global Water Partnership of Central Asia and Kazakhstan. Before the training, welcoming words were made by the head of the Aarhus Center of Bishkek A.Nurbekov and the representative of NWP “Water Partnership of Kyrgyzstan” S.Turdukulova, who greeted the training participants, briefed on the activities of their organizations and informed everyone about the significance of this event.



Then, the trainers presented their presentations on the theme “The qualitative application of environmental legislation in the Kyrgyz Republic” (Boltobaeva V.) and “Water legislation in the Kyrgyz Republic – an example of proper regulation of the use of water reserves” (Dzhailoobayev A.). According to the results of the presentation, a practical game on the presented materials was held, after which the leaders of the groups presented their materials to the participants of the training. For each case reviewed, discussions were held, comments and recommendations were made.

At the end of the consideration of all the questions, the discussion of all the material presented was held and opinions were expressed on the training. The deputy dean of the “Hydromelioration, Ecology and Land Management” of the Kyrgyz Agrarian University named after N.Skryabin B.O.



At the end of the training, the organizers presented to the participants of the training certificates of participation in this training.

b) On November 24, 2018 in the conference hall of the Plaza Hotel in Bishkek, the second stage of the training was held on the topic “Review of the regulatory legal acts of the Kyrgyz Republic in the field of water resources use”. The training conducted by the Aarhus Centre in Bishkek and the public association “Global Water Partnership” with the support of the OSCE Programme Office in Bishkek. The participants of this stage were university professors and employees of the National Water Partnership of Kyrgyzstan.



The keynote speakers were the head of the Aarhus Centre in Bishkek A.Nurbekov, who provided the training participants with information about the Centre’s activities for 2017-2018 and plans for the future, and the coordinator of the Global Water Partnership of the South Caucasus countries, Central Asia and Mongolia A.Djailobaev. The trainer of this training was the head of the National Water Partnership of Kyrgyzstan K.Masabaeva. Participants familiarized with the innovations in the legislation of the Kyrgyz Republic in the

field of the water sector and took part in a practical game prepared by the organizers of the training.



After practical discussions in groups, materials were presented and discussed by the attendees. At the end, the majority of participants expressed their opinions about the training, asked numerous questions and suggestions. Following the results of the training, all participants were awarded certificates of participation in this event.

Activity Issyk-Kul Aarhus Centre

Activity 1.7 Round tables in Issyk-Kul region on implementation of the Aarhus Convention are organized

a) On May 25, 2018 in Karakol, the Issyk-Kul Aarhus Center held a round table on the theme “Solving environmental problems involving the ayil okrugs, the public and the media – the basis for implementing the principles of the Aarhus Convention. The round table was attended by the head of the organizational department of the mayor’s office of Karakol Zh.Sodonbekova, the chief specialist of the Zheti-Oguz territorial department of the State Agency for Environmental Protection and Forestry T.Ulanbekov, the head of the municipal enterprise “Tazalyk” Karakol A.Abdykeev and the chairmen of the local territorial administrations, representatives of the public.



The manager of the Issyk-Kul Aarhus Center S.Tursunakunov told participants of the round table about principles of Aarhus Convention, obligations of Kyrgyz Republic for its implementation, work plans of Issyk-Kul Aarhus Centre.

Participants of the round table were interested in the activities of the network of Aarhus Centers and suggestions were made for further joint work with the Centers. In addition, the participants discussed issues of the ecological state of Karakol city, landfills, purity of Issyk-Kul Lake, difficulties in solving these problems and what kind of joint work carried out by state bodies with the public.

The participants of the round table noted the importance of the work of the Aarhus Center and requested that such round tables be held in other areas of the Issyk-Kul region.

b) On 7 June, 2018, the Issyk-Kul Aarhus Center, in cooperation with the project partner “KGZ-Water / Issyk-Kul” held a round table on the theme “Environment of the Issyk-Kul region and its importance for the well-being of the population ” in the conference hall of the Issyk-Kul region State Administration. On the round table participated: Ismanaliev D.B. – the head of the Issyk-Kul region State Administration, Mamatairov B.K. – the head of the Environmental Monitoring Department of the State Agency for Environmental Protection and Forestry under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic, Nurbekov A.- the head Aarhus Center of Bishkek, Syuyumbayev I.T. – Director General of Biosphere Territory “Issyk-Kul”, Miekela A. – Senior Technical Adviser of the Finnish Environment Institute, Project Manager “KGZ-Water / Issyk-Kul”, Gruzdova O. – specialist of the project “KGZ-Water / Issyk-Kul”, Shamsutdinov A. – leader of PF “Clean Issyk-Kul”, as well as heads of ayyl aimaks of Issyk-Kul region, heads of boarding houses and guest houses.

At the beginning of the round table, the head of the Issyk-Kul District State Administration, Imanaliev D. B. presented with a welcoming speech. He expressed gratitude to the organizers of the round table and briefed the audience on the state of the environment in the region, focused on the environmental problems of the district, on environmental protection activities, invited all organizations and the public to join efforts to solve environmental issues in the region, invoke the heads of ayilm aimaks and heads of boarding houses to responsibly refer to the natural reserves in the region.



The head of the environmental monitoring department of the State Agency for Environmental Protection and Forestry under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic, Mamatairov B.K. also in his speech outlined the problems of ecology and informed about the work undertaken by the agency. The managers of KGZ-Water / Issyk-Kul project Myakelya A. and Gruzdov O. informed the participants of the round table on the monitoring of the water quality of the Issyk-Kul lake and on the preparation of the regional report on the state of the environment of Issyk-Kul region. The head of the Public Foundation Shamsutdinov A. Presented the actions carried out by the fund to clean the coast of the Issyk-Kul Lake from the garbage with the help of divers, as well as a slide show about the state of the bottom of the Issyk-Kul Lake during the collection of household garbage. Manager of Issyk-Kul Aarhus Center Tursunakunov S.S. presented information about Aarhus Centers of Kyrgyzstan and plans of Issyk-Kul Aarhus Center for 2018



The participants of the round table noted the special importance of preserving the environment, the dangers of plastic and cellophane products, the problems of garbage dumps and places of waste accumulation, the importance of familiarizing the younger generation with the preservation of nature, strengthen the work of environmental services to solve environmental issues and made proposals to address such problems.

Also, with the support of the OSCE Office in Bishkek, the official contest “Take Issyk-Kul – the pearl of Kyrgyzstan” among ayilm aimaks of Issyk-Kul district, boarding houses and guest houses was given an official start. The competition will be held from 7 June 2018 to 5 September 2018. Summing up the results of the contest will be held on September 14, 2018.

The winners will be determined in the following nominations:

- the cleanest aiyl aimak.
- the cleanest beach area.
- the most green boarding house (guest house)

accessible modern technologies in solving environmental problems

Based on the issues discussed, the round table participants adopted a resolution:

Introduce the proposal to Jogorku Kenesh of the Kyrgyz Republic to develop and adopt a law prohibiting the use of plastic and cellophane packages.

Introduce the proposal to Jogorku Kenesh of the Kyrgyz Republic to amend the relevant law on the prohibition of the importation of fishing nets into the territory of Kyrgyzstan.

Ask the Issyk-Kul regional television and radio company to cover more often environmental programs.

c) On June 26th, 2018 in the Kosh-Kel village of Issyk-Kul district in the conference hall of the “Rainbow West” boarding house, the Issyk-Kul Aarhus Center with the financial support of the Program office in Bishkek organized the round table on the topic “Land Transformation” and “Preparation of legal documents and land documents for landfills“.

The heads of the Kara-Oi, Chon-Sary-Oi, Tamchin and Toru-Aygyr ayiln aimaks of the Issyk-Kul district, as well as deputies of local keneshes, land specialists and lawyers of the ayilny aimaks took part in the work of round table.

At the beginning of the round table discussion the manager of the Issyk-Kul Aarhus Center S.Tursunakunov presented information to the participants about the Aarhus Centers of Kyrgyzstan and the ongoing plans for 2018 of the Issyk-Kul Aarhus Center.



The detailed information was shared with the participants of the round table on the transfer (transformation) of land from one category to another, as were the ways of obtaining title documents and documents for landfills. Among the participants of the round table this issue provoked an intense discussion and the participants shared their problems with the preparation of documents.

There were offered proposals for the construction of a garbage processing plant, for the cleanliness of the coastal zone, for environmental issues. Participants demanded the Issyk-Kul Aarhus Center to participate in rural environmental meetings and give to local residents information on environmental issues.

As a result, the participants of the round table adopted the following resolution:

- To conduct joint work on environmental issues to Aiyl aimaks by Issyk-Kul Aarhus Center
- To recommend to the Jogorku Kenesh of the Kyrgyz Republic to amend the Land Code of the Kyrgyz Republic, to the relevant law for an operative decision on the transfer

(transformation) of land from one category to another at the level of ayil aimaks and the district state administration

Activity 1.8 A round table on environmental problems at Lake Issyk-Kul and a subsequent clean-up campaign are organized

Sub-activity 1.8.1 International Meeting of Aarhus Centers of Southeast Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia

From September 19 to September 20 of current year, in the pension “Karven four seasons” in the village Chon-Sary-Oi of the Issyk Kul region the annual meeting of Aarhus Centers of Europe, Transcaucasia and Central Asia with the assistance of the OSCE Office in Bishkek was conducted. The representatives of all Aarhus Centers operating in these regions arrived in Kyrgyzstan. Representatives of the OSCE Secretariat in Vienna, the secretariat of the Aarhus Convention from Geneva, local international institutions (UNDP, EU, EBRD, Finnish Water Institute, Kazakh-German University, Internews) also attended the meeting. In addition representatives of the ministries of environmental protection and environmental organizations of the countries of the region attended the meeting. The Deputy Director of the State Agency for Environmental Protection and Forestry (SAEPF) under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic A. Ryspekov, chief specialists of the SAEPF N.Baidakova and B.Omurova, akim of the Issyk-Kul District State Administration D.Imanaliev, representatives of the media worked during the meeting. The ambassador Pierre fon Ars, employment and consultant, on behalf of Program Office OSCE took part on discussions. The total quality is under 80 people.



The program was very intense and had a special flavor of conduction this event, as this meeting was the first time conducted outside the Europe. After the arrival of the majority of the participants, an introductory visit to the cultural center “Rukh Ordo” was organized, where our guests got acquainted with the history and diversity of the life of Kyrgyzstan.

On September 19 till the lunch time of September 20 the meeting was held, during which were sessions :

Celebration of the 20th anniversary of the Aarhus Convention – a model of environmental democracy;

Increase of the stakeholder participation in monitoring hazardous waste management through capacity building and raising awareness in key areas;

Strengthen the capacity for disaster risk reduction and climate change, and implementation of activities at the community level;

Increase public participation in the rational use of water resources;

Facilitation the transition of the green economy and the efficient use of resources at the local level;

Discussion on sustainable activities of Aarhus Centers and resource mobilization;

Facilitation the transition of the green economy and the efficient use of resources at the local level;

Discussion on sustainable activities of Aarhus Centers and resource mobilization;

Discussion of issues on sustainable activities of the Aarhus Centers and resource mobilization.

All topics were of great importance and the discussion passed in excess of the established time frame. Each of the speakers, and there were 5 representatives of Aarhus Centers of different countries at each session, shared their experience in the proposed topics and gave their recommendations on the successful implementation of the tasks.

Sub-activity 1.8.2 Discussion of problems in the field of ecology and the cleanup on the beach of Issyk-Kul lake

In the second half of September 20, a field visit was organized by the Issyk-Kul Aarhus Center, which included a subbotnik on the shores of Issyk-Kul Lake and a study of the cleaning of the diver's enthusiasts' voluntary movement "Pure Issyk-Kul" and joint discussion of environmental issues in general. Representatives of aiyl okmotus and leaders of the Issyk-Kul District, boarding houses and health resorts, independent ecologists and public organizations of the region, as well as local media and TV took part in the discussion.



Activity 1.9 Training for judges and prosecutors on the Aarhus Convention are conducted in the Issyk-Kul region

August 3 in the boarding house "Kyrgyz seashore" in Bosteri of Issyk-Kul district hosted 6th training for the judiciary of Kyrgyzstan. This training led to the completion of the 2nd stage of training on justice issues on the principles of the Aarhus Convention. During 3 years Centre organized trainings for representatives of human rights organizations, NGOs in the field of ecology, students of law faculties and judges of regional courts, Osh and Bishkek. In total, the fundamentals of the Aarhus Convention have been trained for more than 120

judges, 12 students and 15 NGO representatives. Participants have been acquainted with the main regulatory legal acts of Kyrgyzstan in recent years



The main objective of these trainings was to introduce and explain how the principles of the Aarhus Convention can be used to protect the environmental rights of the population and to use them correctly in judicial proceedings. Also, during the training, the trainees got acquainted with the legislative acts in the field of environmental protection and the amendments introduced in recent years. All trainings were conducted by the consultants of the Aarhus Center in Bishkek Boltobaeva Venusa – a lawyer, legal expert and Arstanbaeva Dilara Erkinovna – a judge of the Supreme Court of Kyrgyzstan.



The training was conducted according to the approved program module by the Council of Judges of the Supreme Court of the Kyrgyz Republic and according to the program of the Higher School of Justice under the Supreme Court of the Kyrgyz Republic. The program was compiled on the basis of a signed Memorandum of Cooperation between the Aarhus Center of Bishkek and the Higher School of Justice of June 29, 2015. At the end of the training, each participant was given certificates of participation, which has a registration number of the Higher School of Justice, as well as a collection of the NAP in the field of the DUS of the KR for 2009-2016, a memo on the Aarhus Convention, training materials and other literature on environmental conservation.

Activity 1.10 A contest among the institutions of the region on the preservation of the environment is organized

For the implementation of this activity, in June, during the round table with the support of the OSCE Programme Office in Bishkek, an official start was given to the contest “Issyk-Kul - the Pearl of Kyrgyzstan” among aiyyl aimaks of Issyk-Kul district, boarding houses and guest houses. The competition started in June 5, 2018 and ended in September 5, 2018.



Results of contest revealed on September 20 - 2018 during the international meeting of the Aarhus Centres.

- The winners were determined in the following categories:
- The purest ayma aimak
- The cleanest beach area.
- The greenest board house (guest house)
- Modern technologies in solving environmental problems.



All prizes purchased at the expense of the OSCE Programme Office in Bishkek and had an environmental focus (garbage cans, study tour to Finland to experience collecting household waste and preserving water supplies in Finland).

Activity 1.11 Participation of youth in environmental activities is enhanced

On October 17, 2018, in the assembly hall of the school-gymnasium named after I.Abdurazakov, Cholpon-Ata, Issyk-Kul district, the contest “Ecology – through eyes of children” was held, organized by the Issyk-Kul Aarhus Center together with the Issyk-Kul

district department of national education with financial support of OSCE Program Office in Bishkek. This competition was held within one month (from September 15 to October 15, 2018) among pupils of secondary schools in Issyk-Kul district in the following nominations:

- ❖ The best illustration (illustrations on the theme “Ecology – through eyes of children” among pupils from grade 1 to grade 3);
- ❖ The best crafts (making various crafts out of the waste products among students from grade 4 to grade 6);
- ❖ The best essay (an essay among students from 7th grade to 11th grade about preserving the cleanliness of Lake Issyk-Kul, about ecology, about respect for nature.)
- ❖



Schoolchildren from all secondary schools in Issyk-Kul district took an active part in the competition. According to the results of the submitted entries, the commission determined the following winners:

In the nomination “The best illustration”

1st place. Pupil of the 1st grade of the secondary school named after Sh. Esenaliev – Jumadylov Izmir;

2nd place. Pupil of the 1st grade of the secondary school of the village of Kara-Oi-Dzhakypbekova Zhamila;

3rd place. Pupil of the 3rd class of E.Kerimgaziev secondary school – Aytbayeva Aybiyke.

In the nomination “The best crafts”

1st place. Pupil of the 6th grade of the Zh.Shabirov secondary school – Kalkenov Kutdar;

2nd place. Pupil of the 5th grade of the secondary school named after AS Pushkin – Rodovsky Kholkovsky;

3rd place. The pupil of the 4th grade of the secondary school of the village of Baet – Abazganov Azat.

In the nomination “The best essay”:

1st place. Pupil of the 10th grade of the secondary school named after Ch. Imankulov – Zhumabekov Kamila;

2nd place. Pupil of the 9th grade of the secondary school named after K. Mamatov – Abdykadyrov Assel;

3rd place. Pupil of the 10th grade of the secondary school named after A.Tumenbayev – Zhenishbekov Akylay.

The winners were awarded valuable gifts and diplomas. The students who took an active part in the competition were also awarded letters of thanks from the Issyk-Kul Aarhus Center.



Activity 1.12 A study visit for the AC Issyk-Kul to Osh AC is organized

Employees of the Issyk-Kul Aarhus Center during their visit to Osh city visited the information Aarhus Center in Osh city in order to exchange experience.

During the meeting, the Director of the Information Aarhus Center in Osh, K.Isabayev gave detailed information on the work done for 2018 and plans for the future. He also shared his experience in conducting seminars, round tables, trainings and on public awareness events. At the end of the meeting, employees of the Issyk-Kul Aarhus Center expressed their opinion that they received a lot of useful information.



The importance of such meetings was noted in order to implement the Strategy for the Development of the Aarhus Centers of Kyrgyzstan in solving environmental problems and sharing experience.

3) Information on achievements:

- round tables were held in 4 regions of Kyrgyzstan, in which our partners, local communities, self-government bodies and civil activists took part;
- 4 information boards were installed in the regions (in the cities of Cholpon-Ata, Naryn, Talas and Bishkek);
- 2 seminars on environmental journalism for young journalists, press secretaries of government departments and university graduate students were held;
- 2 trainings were conducted on the application of regulatory legal acts in the field of environmental protection of the Kyrgyz Republic;
- 2 workshops were held on the application of the foundations of the Aarhus Convention to address environmental challenges in the regions;
- a roundtable on the Issyk-Kul Lake pollution problems was held with the participation of local communities and civilians;
- an international meeting of the Aarhus Centres of South-Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia was held, in which up to 80 people from 15 countries took part;
- a clean-up was held on cleaning the coastal zone of Lake Issyk-Kul with the participation of participants of the international meeting of Aarhus Centres and amateur divers from the NGO “Clean Issyk-Kul”;
- the last training was held for judges of local courts as part of training the judiciary on the application of the Aarhus Convention in the handling of court cases;
- an environmental competition was organized among ayil okmotus and guesthouses of the Issyk-Kul district in 4 nominations;
- a competition was held among pupils of schools in the Issyk-Kul region on environmental issues;
- a trip was organized by the staff of the Issyk-Kul Aarhus Centre in Osh to get acquainted with the activities of the Osh Aarhus Centre and exchange experience.

4) Expected results:

- continue to build up relationship in the regions with local governments and civil communities;
- strengthen ties with partners in the regions and in Bishkek for joint projects;
- continue to cooperate with partners with whom memorandums and agreements on joint activities have been concluded;
- continue to provide assistance to universities and schools in matters of environmental development and the application in practice of the knowledge gained;
- increase the work of informing the public after the installation of additional information boards;
- plan to open another Aarhus Centre in the Naryn region;
- developed together with the OSCE Programme Office in Bishkek the National Plan for the Development of Aarhus Centres of the Kyrgyz Republic for 2019-2023;

Adil Nurbekov
Head of Aarhus Center in Bishkek,
December 12, 2018.